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REVOLUTION

socialist youth movement

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Organise to FIGHT For Education! Employment! Training!

Inside: Protest at the Labour Party conference • Fight for jobs for youth
• Stop the education cuts • The fight against fascism • Afghanistan – get
the troops out! • From worker occupations to workers control • Build an
anticapitalist party • and more!...

a word from the editor

The government and the papers keep going on about how there are almost a million NEETs (youth in no employment, education or training) but none of them are actually proposing that we're provided with any of these essentials. They are leaving us to rot on the scrapheap of no prospects. The government promised 150,000 jobs for young people but this would still leave at least 750,000 still without work and there's no evidence that they're fulfilling this promise because all we can see is yet more redundancies. By training they seem to be referring to the 'dole school' schemes where they pay private companies £100 a week per person to stick the unemployed in a room with not enough chairs or computers and tell them to work on their CVs. If they're so dedicated to education

then why are they selling off our schools to private companies in the form of academies and forcing through massive cuts in university funding?

It's all just spin – the government, the bosses and the media have no real solution to the capitalist crisis and the mass unemployment it's causing. The only thing they can think to do is to cut our education to pay for the billions they gave to the banks, cut our benefits when we don't attend their 'training' courses or aren't trying hard enough to find jobs (as if there are any jobs to be had) and use us as a cheap workforce so that the bosses can make some more profit. They're introducing workfare soon, which will mean that we're forced to work for our benefits and earn less than £2 an hour making money for the bosses.

We have to fight back. There are going to be strikes coming up in the post and the firefighters are balloting for action, already people are taking inspiration from the Vestas occupation and taking over buildings to stop cuts and closures. These sorts of actions can show us the way forward – we have to unionise, strike, protest and occupy. We need to stick together against the attacks and set up solidarity committees that can fundraise for strikes and occupations and spread them to other workplaces. We need to get down to Brighton for the Labour Party Conference and tell Gordon Brown that we're not going to pay for their crisis, that we are millions and they are few and if the capitalists can't run their own system then we'll replace it with ours – with socialism.



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5 reasons why you should protest at the Labour Party Conference

JOSH R * PECKHAM

1. Job cuts

Labour has done nothing for young people over their years in office as more and more of us were moved into low paid, temp jobs which offered few rights and no security. We're paying for this now the bosses are laying off workers to save money in the recession. Now, due to them spending billions on failing banks, they will cut thousands of jobs from the public sector too.

2. Imperialist war

From Afghanistan to Iraq, the Labour government has killed millions to secure oil and gas supplies in the Middle East and central Asia. Far from fighting terrorism, their wars have sent people straight into the arms of groups like the Taliban. In Afghanistan women's rights have got worse and few voted in recent elections. So much for spreading democracy!

3. Thieving MPs

Labour has launched another war at home against "benefit cheats". Ironical when at the same time, Labour MP's have defrauded the public out of hundreds of thousands of pounds in ridiculous expenses claims.

4. Green Lies

Labour claims to be a green party, they claim to support alternative fuel sources, that is, until a wind turbine factory goes bust; then they are not willing to shell out for the green dream. For Labour, fat cat bankers are much more important than clean energy.

5. Killing our NHS

Years of privatisation have taken their toll on our health service. Lots of our taxes were spent by hospitals and health trusts on dodgy investments that have now gone down the pan. Labour tried to balance cuts in public spending with increased private investment – but the recession means that private health companies don't want to invest any more. Now they want their money back. There's no such thing as a free lunch and Labour's plans for our healthcare in the year ahead could mean that many people in Britain pay the ultimate price. The Tories could do even worse, but if they get in, it's Labour's fault.

If you have had enough of this, come to Brighton on 27 September to protest at the Labour Party conference. Contact info@worldrevolution.org.uk and our website for transport info and advice on getting your mates along

Fight for jobs for youth

*BY SARA * HORSHAM*

Without talking in clichés here, although they are clichéd for a reason, **youth are the future.** Yet the greedy capitalists seem indifferent to this. Youth unemployment is on the rise and there is a tumult of students seeking full time work to get into the UK job market for the very first time.

Many will be bitterly disappointed, and if something isn't done, lives will be ruined. Over the last few years, those of us lucky enough to enter work when the economy was supposedly good ended up working in temp jobs, on 'zero hours contracts' and in workplaces like call centres where trade unions are weak and the bosses can sack us with the blink of an eye.

These jobs were the first to go when the crisis hit, because we were the

most easy to sack. Now those of us leaving education to find work are battling against thousands of people our own age who have been kicked out of their jobs to avoid the dole queue. It's not right and it's not fair.

Official figures say that the jobless rate among 16 to 24-year-olds has soared to almost 20%, with more than 920,000 classed as unemployed. Imagine that, nearly one hundred thousand youths are unemployed, that's a mind-boggling number.

It's true when they say that behind every statistic is a human being. And to leave education to experience potentially years of unemployment straight off can screw up the life chances of a generation. Unemployment causes poverty, depression and a lack of confidence.

We have a choice though, to build our own confidence and fight the bosses' crisis. The key is to organise. We can demand real action to create jobs, instead of allowing them to shove us to one side like a broken Christmas toy.

ORGANISE TO WIN

- Organise and take action for local centres of the young unemployed at schools, colleges and abandoned workplaces. Use them to coordinate struggle.
- Occupy workplaces when we hear of redundancies. Demand reinstatement!
- For living rates of unemployment benefits.
- More schools, hospitals, and homes to provide services and jobs. Pay for them by taxing the rich.

Hands off our education!

*BY KIRK * LEICESTER*

The budget of 2009 brought a tremendous blow for key public services over the next few years, including education and the NHS.

Universities in particular will be hit as the government's plans mean that many courses will have reduced funding and staff will be made redundant. The Treasury figures show that spending on schools will increase by a mere

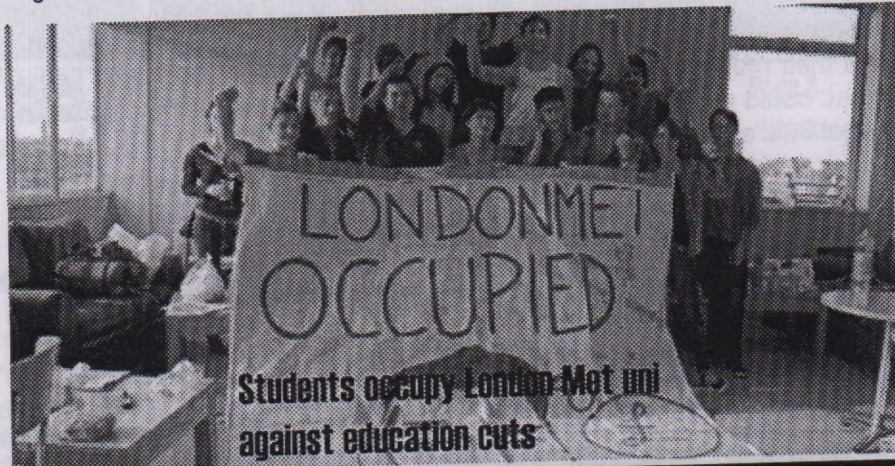
0.8% next year but DIUS (Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills) will have its funding slashed by 2.4%!

Students and teachers up and down the country have called for protests and strikes in retaliation to the proposed cuts, feeling that it is unjust and contradictory in regards to the current economic climate. UCL has announced that it wants to cut its

2009-2010 budget by £20million which is likely to lead to a loss of 200 to 400 jobs. Jon Richards, the UNISON Head of Higher Education pointed out; "Education is crucial to building a path out of the recession and is an investment in the future of our country".

The government however, feels that the cuts are justified because of the recession, despite the obvious negative effects that they will bring. Teachers and Lecturers have rightly noted that the proposed cuts will mean a huge loss of support staff, and therefore the quality of teaching will be hindered, leaving the students with less to show after accumulating debts for a compromised education.

UNISON, Unite and UCU have organised protests and demonstrations to be held at college and university campuses and urge students and young people to get involved and protest against the cuts that will severely affect their education.



Success as BNP festival blockaded

BY MIKE, ALEX AND CHRIS

On 15 August the British National Party planned to hold their annual racist gathering the Red, White and Blue festival, but thousands of militant anti-fascists had other plans.

The location of the festival was ideal for shutting it down too – a farm in a small Derbyshire village, with only three roads running into it. The plan of the anti fascists was to block the lane from both ends and stop any of the fascists getting past.

REVOOLUTION had members in each of the blockades blocking the road as well as in the rally in the centre of town.

One carload of fascists thought it sensible to try to pass the blockade wearing shirts bearing the "Northants BNP" logo."

They soon realised this was a mistake as angry protesters surrounded the vehicle and physically forced it back. After turning away our first Nazis of the day the crowd, in the proud spirit of a century of international working class anti fascism, erupted into chants of "NO, NO, NO PASSARAN!" which translates from Spanish as "THEY WILL NOT PASS!"

As the day went on more and more fascists were turned away, including a BNP member who drove his Landrover on to the curb before being stopped by two Revo members who ran in the way and were afterwards backed up by hundreds of protesters.

Meanwhile the southern blockade was holding strong but a larger and increasingly violent police force was taking its toll. Almost as soon as Revo members had joined the blockade, linked arms and formed a bigger road-block of about 100 protesters, the police proceeded to tell us to move out of the way because the line of Nazi cars was growing bigger and bigger. The blockade was instructed by the UAF stewards to stand our ground. The police then sounded a warning saying that they were going to forcibly remove protesters from the public highway. After a few minutes, two walls of police closed in from opposite ends of the road.



The rally that had been taking place in the centre of Condor, the nearest small town, began to march to the north blockade. Now that we had successfully stopped the BNP members from going to the festival the plan was to march down the

road and to try and shut down what was left of the BNP festival.

The local residents came out of their houses to watch the demonstration and many clapped and cheered as we marched past.

But when we got within two hundred yards of the festival we were faced with a less friendly response; dozens of police vans, 6 mounted riot police and anything up to a hundred on foot. Two times protesters broke the police lines, and the police then became increasingly violent by grabbing, arresting and pushing people to the floor.

Eventually all the protesters met up and together marched victorious through Codnor. In total we must have number about 2,000 and the mood was very upbeat, with the demo chanting anti fascist slogans as we returned from successfully disrupting the BNP festival. By using No Platform tactics to block roads and physically stop the fascists meeting together, we ensured that the BNP couldn't organise and train their members for another year of fascist attacks on ethnic minorities and the working class.

Together we showed that working class people when not divided by race, gender, nationality or sexuality can unite together and defeat the far right. With the BNP's electoral success they have become arrogant but after this protest and the successful action in Birmingham, the united working class has knocked them down a peg and shown them that the working class will not idly stand by and watch fascism grow but will fight it wherever it may be. Hopefully these last two weeks will send out a clear message to fascists that if you try and mobilise on our streets and in our communities then you will be driven out.

Fascists flee angry Brum youth

By John from Essex

The fascist English Defence League (EDL) was handed a crushing defeat on 4th of August when their "anti Islamic fundamentalism" protest was met with well over 300 antifascists and members of the Birmingham community. There were running battles through the streets of Birmingham as youth broke up the racist march. After provoking local Muslims, EDL members soon realised they had bitten off more than they could chew and fled like rats. The EDL claimed that it was a peaceful protest and the antifascists were the ones causing trouble. In reality many of the EDL thugs were singing anti Islamic chants and slogans at passers by. The counterprotest is a model for young people to follow when racists and fascists try to divide our communities and spread their hate.

SMASH FASCISM – BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY!

Derek Simpson... *Wanker of the month*

Derek Simpson, joint General Secretary of Unite - the biggest private-sector trade union in the UK - is a fucking wanker. He isn't the most well-known of people and you may be struggling to picture his face. Well you may have seen him earlier this year, when he made himself look like a complete nationalist bell-end, showing his support for the "British Jobs for British Workers" slogan, by posing with two models from right-wing rag "The Star" holding "BJ4BW" placards. Yep, that's the arsehole.

As if attacking our brothers and sisters in Europe wasn't enough, this greedy little bureaucrat is now turning on workers in this country. At the moment the CWU members of Royal Mail are in the middle of a series of strikes over job cuts, pay, pensions, working conditions and proposed privatisation measures. However, a lot of middle-management in the postal service are members of Unite - Mr Simpson's department -

and they have been consistently scabbing - crossing picket lines to continue to work. So what is Unite's response? "Well, err... We can't stop you!" Errr... Yes you can! If Derek Simpson supports "British Workers" so much, why is he allowing members of his union to scab and undercut the members of another union who are fighting to save their jobs? Because Derek Simpson is a fucking bureaucrat who lives in an £800,000 "grace-and-favour" mansion and gets around £200,000 a year, which increased 17% last year. Also there is evidence to suggest he may have made a deal with Brown to keep the house permanently, no matter whether he keeps his position in the union or not.

I'll leave the final words to Steve Kelly, a construction worker in Romford: "When we are all living in fear of losing our jobs and maybe homes, it is an outrage that our general secretary lives in a mansion with no threat of losing it ever. No

wonder he sucks up to Gordon Brown and big business!"

Too fucking right Steve. When it comes to workers - British or not - Derek Simpson just does not give a fuck.

Congratulations Derek, you are this month's Wanker.



Pic: Jess Hard

From occupations to workers' control

BY JOHN AND ALEX

Factories, offices, and other workplaces all across the world have been occupied these last few months in resistance to the recession. In Britain, workers at Visteon car component factories seized millions of pounds worth of equipment and wouldn't give it back until they got better redundancy pay. At Vestas wind turbine factory, workers occupied until the police forced them out. They demanded nationalisation to save jobs and save the environment. They inspired Thomas Cook travel agent staff to occupy offices in Ireland.

But South Korea has probably seen the top occupation so far. Thousands of workers fended off riot police with makeshift slingshots and crossbows to defend their jobs.

These occupations are an important weapon in the fight back against the recession - but

there is more to it than that.

When workers go in to occupation, they have to organise themselves. That means their food, the security, publicity, campaigning and communication. If workers can do all this, then why can't they take it to the next stage? And actually start to plan and organise their own work and own production without the management. This could form the basis for a new economy, based not upon unsustainable profit which causes recessions, environmental destruction and exploitation but based on production of *what is* needed to *where it is* needed.

It is for this reason that when workers go into occupation, we call for nationalisation under the control of the people that work there. In Argentina 2002, thousands of workers across the country started running their factories under workers' control - a slap in

the face to all those today who claim that workplace democracy is not possible. This is what a socialist economy would look like, but democratically planned on both national and international levels. But it requires a revolution do it - the capitalists' means of violence and repression, the police, the army and the courts are used to stop occupations and crush workers' control often before it really begins. That means that these bodies have to be destroyed for socialism to work.

The repression faced by occupying workers at Visteon and Vestas in Britain and on a larger scale at some factories in France and Korea shows that this remains very true today. But in the meantime we need more, larger occupations against job cuts and self-defense to protect ourselves. This should be a key goal for workers and youth suffering from the crisis in 2009.

Afghanistan: bring the troops home

BY MIKE R * LEEDS

After 8 years of occupation, costing ten thousand civilian lives and billions of pounds, the war in Afghanistan is losing support day-by-day. A majority of the public (62%) are now against the war. Since 2001, more than 200 UK soldiers have died in the conflict, taking over the total of 139 in the Iraq war.

The mainstream media is saturated with reports of poor provisions for the men and women sent out to die for the imperialistic dream, including blaming the recent death toll on a lack of army helicopters.

But the real reason for the high rate

of deaths and injuries is that the war is being lost. After 8 years of war to control the very lucrative gas route from Asia that Afghanistan sits on, organisations like the Taliban are growing as the promise of peace and democracy from Britain and the US turns out to be a lie. Now, the only option left for the imperialists is to send more troops. Army chiefs are predicting the war could last 40 years.

The first step to putting a decisive stop to this carnage is the pull the troops out now. In addition we need to win an argument that convinces the public, that the afghan insurgents are

not "terrorists" as the UK and US governments call them, they are in fact freedom fighters, opposed to the occupation.

Only by doing this can, revolutionaries get a hearing from those forced to join fanatical groups like the Taliban as the only way to fight the occupiers.

This allows socialists to put forward a left-wing analysis to challenge political Islam's grasp over the resistance struggle. We argue for a united socialist Afghanistan to rise up against occupation and oppression and for Afghanistan to be back in the hands of the Afghan people.

Politics, beer and internationalism: REVOLUTION summer camp 2009

A camp on the outskirts of North-West Berlin was taken by surprise on the 6th August '09 by floods of revolutionary youth. The camp took place from 6th-9th of August straight after the International Delegates Conference (IDC). Sections from around Europe, such as Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Sweden and the UK attended. Also members of our newly formed section in the US were present. Unfortunately, people from Pakistan and Sri Lanka were unable to attend, as their visas were

refused by the German government, due to the disgusting racist immigration controls in place.

The revolution can only succeed if there is a worldwide struggle for socialism and this struggle can only succeed through an international revolution. The camp truly captured the spirit of internationalism and was a great help in our efforts to co-ordinate the class struggle worldwide. It was inspiring to see so many people from across the globe, that are fighting for the same goal, congregate to discuss

problems, ideas and the way forward.

Each participant had fresh ideas to bring to the discussions, and gave practical insights in the workshops. The sessions were well delivered and gave way to stimulating discussion afterwards. There was an abundance of knowledge to be absorbed and everyone's different perspectives made it all that more interesting. It was especially interesting to hear the charismatic reports of our new US comrades and the camp was of great help to them in learning more about building a section.

Going hand-in-hand with the learning was the festivity of having just under 100 youths in a campsite in Berlin! Campfires, beaches, and cheap beer added to the fun, with all profits made going to REVO. It was a brilliant chance for us to socialise and party.

It was a brilliant experience to be surrounded by so many comrades and it's certain that everyone who attended will remember it. Revocamp was a great place for everyone to learn, grow and make friends. It was an even better place for REVO as a whole to develop and we will all be able to put our experiences at the Revocamp to good use in the coming months!



*** ONE WORLD * ONE BATTLE ***

REVOLUTION 7

WE NEED AN ANTI-CAPITALIST PARTY

BY ★RICHARD ★ LEEDS★

Well, let's be honest, the Labour Party is royally fucked. Whereas the older generations may remember it as the historic party for the working class and still have some illusions in it, we can't. All we've known, throughout our lives, living under the Labour Party has been false promises, outright lies, job cuts, racism, war, privatisation, bailouts and dodgy expense claims, and, of course, this economic crisis.

But now our elders are waking up too, support for Labour has crashed since 1997, with an approval rating of just 23% - a historic low, where have these voters gone? They haven't turned en masse to the Tories, Lib Dems, UKIP or the BNP. They are looking for an alternative.

This is because Labour, The Conservatives, Liberal Democrats and UKIP all agree on one thing: the working class - British and foreign - must be made to pay the price for the economic crisis. Even though we didn't cause the crisis - the rich capitalists did. So we need a new anti-capitalist party that makes them pay, and looks after the

working class who are suffering because of the bankers.

We need a new party for the working class, one that will give people at the next election a real choice, rather than the tired, discredited parties, or the racist UKIP and fascist BNP. This party will give real answers as to who is to blame for the crisis, and how we can avoid it in the future. It will give a voice to the progressive working class and youth, the anti-racist, the anti-sexist, the LGBT movement and the trade union members. It will highlight all of the problems and contradictions deep at the heart of Capitalism.

As socialists we should back this fight for a new party - from Revolution and other left-wing political groups to trade unions, who, with their size could really move this struggle forward. A party like this could and should become international, linking up with other left-wing parties across the EU. We need to start working with trade unions to support us with their size, and we need to get revolutionary socialists to start arguing for revolutionary politics within it.

WHAT WE STAND FOR

The Independent on Sunday got it right in an "expose" of REVOLUTIONs involvement in organising May Day 2001. It said: "REVOLUTION wants to build a revolutionary socialist mass movement and overthrow capitalism." Exactly right. We are opposed to capitalism and the misery, alienation, war and environmental destruction it creates.

We fight all forms of discrimination and oppression, whether on grounds of sex, race, nationality or sexuality.

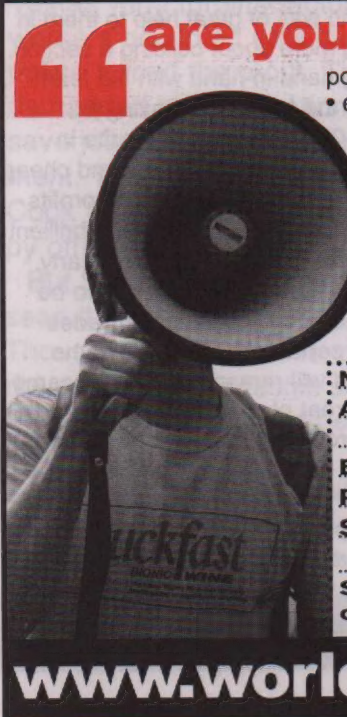
Capitalism is a global system, so we have to fight it globally. We want to smash the borders and divisions of nations and move forward to a truly global and united humanity, without bigotry, war and class division. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our sisters and brothers in the Third World struggling to break free of the trillion dollar debt, the IMF, WTO and NATO.

We are socialists - we want to abolish capitalism and replace it with a planned economy. But we do not believe that the capitalist elite will allow their wealth and privilege to be voted out of existence. We believe it will take force to take the power and property away from the few and redistribute into the hands of the many - that means a revolution!

REVO wants young people to participate in radical politics and organise themselves. Young people can be very radical and militant, the anti war movement proved that. They should take a lead in the movement that will shape the struggle for the future.

We believe a mass movement must be built based on the support of the majority of the people - the working class. It is the working class that produces all the wealth in this society. The working class has no interest in keeping capitalism going. Only the working class has the power, the size and the traditions of organisation to bring this rotten system crashing down.

JOIN US!



are you sick of

- sweatshops • discrimination •
- poverty • sexism • war •
- politicians • racism • boredom • police • big business
- exploitation • oppression • Tony Blair • homophobia
- unfair laws • third world debt • unemployment •
- eco-destruction • rightwing morality • tuition fees
- crap jobs • CAPITALISM??

then join Revolution

and get the antidote and find out what your local group is up to.

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Send to: REVO, BCM 7750, London WC1N 3XX
or join@WorldRevolution.org.uk 07951 493 232

www.worldrevolution.org.uk